

Take That, And That

By SCOTT HOLTZMAN

Here's some of the mail out of my Elvis bag. Thought you might enjoy it.

"My Dear Mr Holtzman: ... Elvis Presley is the greatest thing since Mom's apple pie and anyone who doesn't think so should be hanged from print! ... Where would the Beatles and 'Ode to Billie Joe' be if Elvis hadn't begun it all. He's the 'King' and he always will be ... May your beard have tangles and your mustache droop in your soup! You've put yourself at the top of my BLACKLIST!" Hatefully yours, Janis G."

Dear Janis: I agree with you that Elvis did open the way for other groups and sounds to grow. The only problem is that Elvis stayed right where he was. A true King helps his subjects to grow and improve. He hasn't done or offered anything creative to the music business since those days. In other words, he's stagnated. Your wishes are coming true. It is difficult to eat soup with a mustache. S. H.

"Dear Sir: Your sarcastic remarks about Elvis Presley have rubbed me the wrong way and I intend to let you know it. When I hear such garbage as that thing by Noel Harrison about Suzette kissing somebody's perfect body with her mind ... and the agonizing thing from Nancy Sinatra about 'Lightening's Girl', well, it makes Elvis Presley's 'Hound Dog' and 'Jailhouse Rock' sound like nightingales singing.

"There is more involved to our devotion to Elvis, though. There is such a thing as his personal conduct. Elvis never had to rely on whiskey, marijuana or LSD in order to face life and its problems. When Uncle Sam called him, he went ... So if Elvis still makes the play lists after 30 years, he must have a little bit of what it takes. But I feel sorry for you 'New Generation' ... I wonder if any of them will be around next year? My Mother digs Elvis, too, and she's 75—so take that, and that, and that — you worm. Mrs T. J. Whitfield (age 56)"

Dear Mrs Whitfield: I'm delighted that, at your age, you are trying to understand what is going on in the music of now. However, I feel that there are a few points you have missed. For instance, Noel Harrison's 'Suzanne' (not Suzette) is not garbage, but a lovely religious poem about Jesus. Kissing a perfect body with one's mind is a spiritual phrase and is only dirty if the listener's mind is dirty. Please listen to it again with an open mind. I couldn't agree with you more on 'Lightening's Girl'. I, too, think it is an agonizing record.

As far as Elvis' personal conduct is concerned, I think it is great that he never needed these crutches which plague the youth of today. If you've read my column regularly, you'll realize that I have a definite stand against drugs. I feel that the really hip people don't need crutches. I also

served my country when I was called without bellyaching. That doesn't make me anything special.

As far as members of the "New generation" being around next year, there are many who will be around 10 or 20 years from now. I don't judge musical ability by anyone's personal habits. If I did, I wouldn't have much music to listen to. Billie Holiday's drug addiction never diminished her talent any more than the Beatles' LSD admission altered theirs. Fortunately, they've already passed the adolescent drug-stage, and will go on bringing pleasure to the world. S. H.

"Dear Mr Holtzman: I'm so happy to see that someone finally spoke out against Elvis Presley's mediocre efforts, which always find a place on the radio regardless of how repetitive and monotonous they are ... Elvis has a fine voice which has been revealed more and more with the passage of time. What a pity that his material is so rotten he can't put that voice to a real artistic test. Sincerely, Sheila Harris, Nacogdoches"

Dear Miss Harris: Thank goodness someone read what I really said and understood. As a matter of fact, I think you said it much better than I did. Having a reader like you makes it all worthwhile. Sincerely, S. H.

nowounds news: Just one item of great interest. The Beatles and The Rolling Stones are considering a busi-

ness merger. They plan to keep both groups separate, but would become joint owners of recording studios, film production and act as a launching pad for new groups and artists. It will be a fusion of nine people's business talents in a new and exciting project. Sounds great.

Here's an item for your calendar. The Texas Youth Conference, District 10, will be meeting Saturday at Ball High

School in Galveston. A series of seminars — on LSD, marijuana, venereal disease and alcoholism — will be on tap.

Registration begins at 8 AM, and everything including lunch costs \$1.50. The Nomads, who recently signed with Capitol, will be part of after-seminar entertainment.

SCOTT'S SNEAK OF THE WEEK (Watch for it on KILT and Larry Kane) "Pata Pata" by Meriam Makeba (Reprise).



THE KING AT FULL SONG
Presley Fans Speak Up

top 10 in the nation

ACCORDING TO RECORD WORLD

- 1) "To Sir, With Love" by Lulu
- 2) "Soul Man" by Sam & Dave
- 3) "How Can I Be Sure" by The Young Rascals
- 4) "The Letter" by The Box Tops
- 5) "Never My Love" by The Association
- 6) "Gimme Little Sign" by Brenton Wood
- 7) "Your Precious Love" by Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell
- 8) "Little Ole Man" by Bill Cosby
- 9) "Hey Baby" by The Backslings
- 10) "Expressway To Your Heart" by The Soul Survivors

Ward, "Need Me" by The Moving Sidewalks

KFMK-FM — "Hey Joe" by The Music Machine, "A Day In The Life" by The Beatles, and "Echoes of Time" by The Lemon Fog

KILT — "To Sir, With Love" by Lulu, "Incense & Peppermints," "The Look of Love" by Dusty Springfield

KRBE-FM — "Jimi Hendrix LP," "She Wandered Through The Garden Fence" by Fred Hamm, "Hey Joe" by The Music Machine

TOP 10 LP'S IN HOUSTON:

(Would all of you program advertisers who have been doubting that there is a definite underground market here directors, music directors and in Houston please note numbers 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 on this list. Hate to say I told you so, but ... S. H.)

1) "Are You Experienced" by Jimi Hendrix

2) "Super Hits" by Various Atlantic Artists

3) "Electric Music Mind & Body" by Country Joe & The Fish

4) "Blow Your Mind" by Van Morrison

5) "Supremes Greatest Hits"

6) "Sgt Pepper" by The Beatles

7) "In New York" by Ravi Shankar (plus various other LP's)

8) "The Bee Gee's 1st" by The Bee Gees

9) "Fresh Cream" by Cream

10) "Vanilla Fudge" by Vanilla Fudge

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nowounds calendar

MONDAY

The, The Shades, The Glikins — Deep Water Elementary School, Pasadena

THURSDAY

The Clique — University of Houston Homecoming Street Dance, UH campus

FRIDAY

The Clique — Lamar College of Technology dance, Beaumont

The Rebels — Port Lavaca High School Homecoming Dance

A-440 — Kirwin High School, Galveston

The Sherwoods — Lodge Pocrac

Elastic Prism — Clear Creek High School, League City

fever tree — University of Houston Homecoming Dance, Crystal Ball-

room, Rice Hotel

SATURDAY

Elastic Prism — Mount Carmel Gymnasium

The Sherwoods — Grand Parl, Bay City A-440 — The Recreation Hall, Lake Jackson

The Rebels — Lions Club, Pearland

The Clique — Taylor Hall Teen Center, Pasadena

fever tree — Grand Parl, Bay City

The nowounds calendar prints the when and where of the public performances of the top teen music groups in the Houston area. Send the information to nowounds calendar, Modern Living, The Houston Post, Houston, Texas, 77001.